

Maine Revised Statutes

Title 34-B: BEHAVIORAL AND DEVELOPMENTAL SERVICES

Chapter 15: CHILDREN'S MENTAL HEALTH SERVICES

§15004. CHILDREN'S MENTAL HEALTH OVERSIGHT COMMITTEE

There is established the Children's Mental Health Oversight Committee to advise the departments and to oversee implementation of the program. [1997, c. 790, Pt. A, §1 (NEW); 1997, c. 790, Pt. A, §3 (AFF).]

1. Membership. The committee consists of the following 16 members:

A. Three representatives of the joint standing committee of the Legislature having jurisdiction over health and human services matters who must serve on the committee at the time of their appointments and who may continue to serve while they are Legislators until they are replaced by a new appointment. One member is appointed by the President of the Senate. Two members are appointed by the Speaker of the House, representing each major political party; [1997, c. 790, Pt. A, §1 (NEW); 1997, c. 790, Pt. A, §3 (AFF).]

B. One representative of the joint standing committee of the Legislature having jurisdiction over criminal justice matters, appointed by the Speaker of the House; [1997, c. 790, Pt. A, §1 (NEW); 1997, c. 790, Pt. A, §3 (AFF).]

C. One representative of the joint standing committee of the Legislature having jurisdiction over education and cultural affairs, appointed by the President of the Senate; [1997, c. 790, Pt. A, §1 (NEW); 1997, c. 790, Pt. A, §3 (AFF).]

D. One representative of the joint standing committee of the Legislature having jurisdiction over appropriations and financial affairs, appointed jointly by the President of the Senate and the Speaker of the House; [1997, c. 790, Pt. A, §1 (NEW); 1997, c. 790, Pt. A, §3 (AFF).]

E. The Commissioner of Corrections, the Commissioner of Education and the Commissioner of Health and Human Services, or designees of the commissioners who have authority to participate in full and to make decisions as required of committee members; [2005, c. 397, Pt. C, §20 (AMD).]

F. Three representatives of families whose children receive services for mental health, 2 of whom are appointed by the President of the Senate and one of whom is appointed by the Speaker of the House. One of the appointments of the President of the Senate to the initial committee must be for 2 years. All other appointments are for 3 years; [1997, c. 790, Pt. A, §1 (NEW); 1997, c. 790, Pt. A, §3 (AFF).]

G. Three representatives of providers of children's mental health services who have clinical experience in children's mental health services, one of whom is appointed by the President of the Senate and 2 of whom are appointed by the Speaker of the House. One of the appointments of the Speaker of the House to the initial committee must be for 2 years. All other appointments are for 3 years; and [1997, c. 790, Pt. A, §1 (NEW); 1997, c. 790, Pt. A, §3 (AFF).]

H. One representative of a statewide organization that advocates for children, appointed jointly by the President of the Senate and the Speaker of the House for a 3-year term. [1997, c. 790, Pt. A, §1 (NEW); 1997, c. 790, Pt. A, §3 (AFF).]

[2005, c. 397, Pt. C, §20 (AMD) .]

2. Duties. The committee shall undertake the following responsibilities:

A. Oversight, monitoring and review responsibilities, including the responsibilities to:

- (1) Receive reports and provide advice regarding children's mental health Medicaid waiver applications, in particular the managed care Medicaid waiver that must be submitted by January 1, 1999, unless an extension is agreed to by the committee, and progress in implementing managed care initiatives and memoranda of agreement executed by the departments;
- (2) Maintain contact with and receive reports from the quality improvement councils, the clinical best practices advisory group established under subsection 4 and other entities reporting to the committee;
- (3) Review and comment on rules as provided under this chapter;
- (4) Receive reports from the departments on the program, including its strengths and weaknesses and its administration, and on the process of transition of young adults to adult mental health care;
- (5) Receive reports from the departments pursuant to section 15003, subsection 9; and
- (6) Gather facts regarding care and support services provided under this chapter and report its recommendations to the joint standing committee of the Legislature having jurisdiction over appropriations and financial affairs and the joint standing committee of the Legislature having jurisdiction over health and human services matters by October 1st each year and as frequently as the committee determines to be appropriate; and [1997, c. 790, Pt. A, §1 (NEW); 1997, c. 790, Pt. A, §3 (AFF).]

B. Meeting every 2 months or more often, as the committee determines necessary. The committee shall elect a secretary from among its members who shall work with staff to keep and to distribute minutes to members and the joint standing committee of the Legislature having jurisdiction over appropriations and financial affairs, the joint standing committee of the Legislature having jurisdiction over corrections matters, the joint standing committee of the Legislature having jurisdiction over education and cultural affairs and the joint standing committee of the Legislature having jurisdiction over health and human services matters. [1997, c. 790, Pt. A, §1 (NEW); 1997, c. 790, Pt. A, §3 (AFF).]

[1997, c. 790, Pt. A, §1 (NEW); 1997, c. 790, Pt. A, §3 (AFF) .]

3. Cochairs. The President of the Senate and the Speaker of the House shall jointly select cochairs to plan for and to preside over meetings.

[1997, c. 790, Pt. A, §1 (NEW); 1997, c. 790, Pt. A, §3 (AFF) .]

4. Clinical best practices advisory group. The committee shall appoint a clinical best practices advisory group to provide advice to the committee on children's mental health best practices. The advisory group must include not less than 3 children's mental health professionals, at least one of whom must represent private sector providers of care and at least one of whom must represent public providers of care.

[1997, c. 790, Pt. A, §1 (NEW); 1997, c. 790, Pt. A, §3 (AFF) .]

5. Reimbursement. Members of the committee who are Legislators may be reimbursed for expenses and are entitled to legislative per diem for attendance at committee meetings. All other members serve voluntarily and without reimbursement.

[1997, c. 790, Pt. A, §1 (NEW); 1997, c. 790, Pt. A, §3 (AFF) .]

6. Staff. The department shall provide staffing assistance to the committee. The committee may request staffing assistance from the Legislative Council. Staffing assistance provided by the Legislative Council must be secondary to the staffing responsibilities of the departments.

[1997, c. 790, Pt. A, §1 (NEW); 1997, c. 790, Pt. A, §3 (AFF) .]

7. Public meetings and information. The committee is subject to the freedom of access laws under Title 1, chapter 13, subchapter I.

[1997, c. 790, Pt. A, §1 (NEW); 1997, c. 790, Pt. A, §3 (AFF) .]

SECTION HISTORY

1997, c. 790, §A1 (NEW). 1997, c. 790, §A3 (AFF). 2005, c. 397, §C20 (AMD) .

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